



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
10800 Financial Centre Parkway, Suite 110, Little Rock, AR 72211



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 2014

Contact: Eugene Young
(800) 327-2790

USDA RESUMES JULY CATTLE SURVEY AND REPORT ***January Report Revealed U.S. Cattle Inventory at Its Lowest in 60 Years,*** ***Current Count Needed***

Jackson, MS – This July, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will fully reinstate its Cattle program by surveying nearly 10,000 cattle operations nationwide to provide an up-to-date measure of U.S. cattle inventories.

Reduced in March 2013 to an annual program due to sequestration budget reductions, NASS will resume the semi-annual Cattle program with both the July and January surveys and *Cattle* reports.

"In January, NASS reported that the all cattle and calves inventory in the United States was the lowest since 1951 at 82.1 million head," said Becky Cross, NASS Delta Regional Director. "Reinstating the July Cattle Survey and Report could not come at a better time. This timely information will serve as a critical decision-making tool for producers and the entire agriculture industry."

During the first two weeks of July, Mississippi producers will have the opportunity to report their beef and dairy cattle inventories, calf crop and cattle on feed operations. To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate in the survey, NASS offers the option of responding via the Internet, telephone, mail, or a personal interview with a local NASS representative.

"There is a need for more current data and NASS is aiming to fill that need by resuming the July Cattle Survey and Report," Cross explained. "This information helps producers make timely, informed marketing decisions and plan for herd expansion or reduction. It also helps packers and government evaluate expected slaughter volume for future months and determine potential supplies for export."

As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

The July *Cattle* report will be released on July 25, 2014. This and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).